SS 44 (Rev. 12/07, NJ 5/08)

#### CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

		<u>.</u>		
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS		DEFENDANT	`S	
JUDY STILES		NCO FINANC	NCO FINANCIAL SYSTEMS, INC.	
(b) County of Residence	of First Listed Plaintiff	County of Residence	ce of First Listed Defendant	
(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, Telephone Number and Email Add Craig Thor Kimmel, Esquire		NOTE: IN L	AND CONDEMNATION CASES, US	E THE LOCATION OF THE
Kimmel & Silverman,		144		
30 E. Butler Pike		Attorneys (If Known)		
Ambler, PA 19002				
(215) 540-8888	N COMP ON 1	<u> </u>		
II. BASIS OF JURISI	OICTION (Place on "X" in One Box Only)	(For Diversity Cases Onl	F PRINCIPAL PARTIES(	Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)
O I U.S. Government Plaintiff	25 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	Citizen of This State	PTF DEF O 1 O 1 Incorporated or Pri of Business In This	PTF DEF
O 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity	Citizen of Another State	G 2 G 2 Incorporated and P	
_ <b></b> ,	(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citizen or Subject of a	O 3 O 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6
W. M. Miller of other		Foreign Country		
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☐ 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJU		☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	☐ 400 State Reapportionment
120 Marine	310 Airplane 362 Personal Injury		☐ 423 Withdrawal	Ø 410 Antitrust
☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	315 Airplane Product Med. Malpinet     Liability		28 USC 157	O 430 Banks and Banking O 450 Commerce
☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	O 320 Assault, Libel & Product Liabili	ty 🖸 630 Liquor Laws	PROPERTY RIGHTS	
& Enforcement of Judgment  3 151 Medicare Act	Slander Ø 368 Asbestos Perso Ø 330 Federal Employers' Injury Product		☐ 820 Copyrights ☐ 830 Patent	470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations
☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability Liability	☐ 660 Occupational	3 840 Trademark	■ 480 Consumer Credit
Student Loans (Excl. Veterans)	☐ 340 Marine Product ☐ 370 Other Fraud	RTY Safety/Health		☐ 490 Cable/Sat TV ☐ 810 Selective Service
☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability (7 371 Truth in Lendi	ng UABOR		850 Securities/Commodities/
of Veteran's Benefits  160 Stockholders' Suits	☐ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 380 Other Personal ☐ 355 Motor Vehicle Property Dama		☐ 861 HIA (1395ff) ☐ 862 Black Lung (923)	Exchange  875 Customer Challenge
(J 190 Other Contract	Product Liability	ge 🔲 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relation	IS	12 USC 3410
☐ 195 Contract Product Liability ☐ 196 Franchise	360 Other Personal Product Liabili     Injury	ty 730 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting & Disclosure Act	g 0 864 SSID Title XVI 0 865 RSI (405(g))	☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions ☐ 891 Agricultural Acts
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL/RIGHTS PRISONER PETITI	ONS 🕮 🗗 740 Railway Labor Act	FEDERAUTAXSUITS	892 Economic Stabilization Act
210 Land Condemnation     220 Forcelosure	441 Voting	ate 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Empl. Ret. Inc.	n	893 Environmental Matters     894 Energy Allocation Act
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	O 443 Housing/ Hubeas Corpus:	Security Act	871 IRS—Third Party	895 Freedom of Information
CJ 240 Torts to Land CJ 245 Tort Product Liability	Accommodations 530 General 544 Welfare 535 Death Penalty	**************************************	26 USC 7609	Act  900Appeal of Fee Determination
© 290 All Other Real Property	444 Welfare			Under Equal Access
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	Cinc the U.S. Civil Statute under which you			3 Balgirieni
VI. CAUSE OF ACTI	ON Brief description of cause: Fair Debt Collection Practices	Act		
VII. REQUESTED IN	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION	ON DEMANDS	CHECK YES only	if demanded in complaint:
. COMPLAINT:	UNDER F.R.C.P. 23		JURY DEMAND:	Ø Yes □ No
VIII. RELATED CAS	SE(S) (See instructions): JUDGE	1	DOCKET NUMBER	
Explanation:		1/1	•	
DATE	SIGNATURE	OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD	)	
•				

### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

#### CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Judy Stile	9	CIVIL ACTION		
v.	:			
NCO Financial	Systems, Inc.	NO.		
plaintiff shall complete a filing the complaint and se side of this form.) In the designation, that defendant the plaintiff and all other	Case Management Track Design rve a copy on all defendants. (Se e event that a defendant does not shall, with its first appearance	Reduction Plan of this court, couns nation Form in all civil cases at the time § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the resot agree with the plaintiff regarding, submit to the clerk of court and sented. Designation Form specifying the ned.	me of everse g said ve on	
SELECT ONE OF THE	FOLLOWING CASE MANA	GEMENT TRACKS:		
(a) Habeas Corpus - Case	es brought under 28 U.S.C. § 22	41 through § 2255.	( )	
(b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits. (				
(c) Arbitration - Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2. ( )				
(d) Asbestos – Cases involving claims for personal injury or property damage from exposure to asbestos.				
(e) Special Management – Cases that do not fall into tracks (a) through (d) that are commonly referred to as complex and that need special or intense management by the court. (See reverse side of this form for a detailed explanation of special management cases.)				
(f) Standard Managemen	t – Cases that do not fall into an	y one of the other tracks.	$\bowtie$	
4   15   1 Date   215:540-8888	Craug Thay Kilminus Attorney-at-law 877-788-2864	el Judy Stiles  Attorney for  Kimmel condition		
Telephone	FAX Number	E-Mail Address		

(Civ. 660) 10/02

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA — DESIGNATION FORM to be assignment to appropriate calendar.	e used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of					
Address of Plaintiff: 15,53 Chalgrave Drive, Cov	ona, CA-92887.					
Address of Defendant: 507 Prodential Road, Horsham, PA 19044						
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction:  (Use Reverse Side For Additional Space)						
Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporation as	ad any publicly held corporation owning 10% or more of its stock?					
(Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a))	/					
Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?	Yes© No 🔼					
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:	165					
Case Number: Judge	Date Terminated:					
Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions:						
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered sult pending or within one year	ar previously terminated action in this court?					
	Yeso No C					
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior st action in this court?	ult pending or within one year previously terminated					
action in this court:	Yes No W					
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier many earlie						
terminated action in this court?	Yes□ No□					
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil rights	crase filed by the same individual?					
4. If this case is second of successive invents corpus, soons accounty appear, or pro second infinite	Yes No No					
CIVIL: (Place ✓ in ONE CATEGORY ONLY)						
A. Federal Question Cases: 1. □ Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases: 1. □ Insurance Contract and Other Contracts					
2. D FELA						
	<ol> <li>□ Airplane Personal Injury</li> <li>□ Assault, Defamation</li> </ol>					
3. D Jones Act-Personal Injury	•					
4. D Antitrust	4.   Marine Personal Injury  Marine Vehicle Personal Injury					
5. Patent	5. D Motor Vehicle Personal Injury					
6. □ Labor-Management Relations	<ol> <li>Other Personal Injury (Please specify)</li> </ol>					
7 Chill Diches	7.  Products Liability					
7. Civil Rights	8. □ Products Liability — Asbestos					
8. Habeas Corpus						
9. Securities Act(s) Cases	9. □ All other Diversity Cases					
10. □ Social Security Review Cases  11. ▼ All other Federal Question Cases   5 V.S.C.   092	(Please specify)					
(Please specify)						
ARBITRATION CERT						
i. Check Appropriate Co						
□ Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and	_					
\$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;						
C Relief other than monetary damages is sought.	G7,					
DATE: 4 5 11 Valg Nor KIMMUL	<u> </u>					
Attorney-at-Law Attorney I.D.#  NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.						
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court except as noted above.						
All Follows All States	C****					
DATE: CILDIII CIQIQ MOT TIMMUL	<u> </u>					
AHorney-at-Law	Attorney I.D.#					

CIV. 609 (6/08)

	i I					
1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT					
2	FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA					
3	JUDY STILES,	)				
4	Plaintiff	) )				
5	V.	Case No.:				
6	NCO FINANCIAL SYSTEMS, INC.,	COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR				
7	Defendant	JURY TRIAL				
8	Defendant	(Unlawful Debt Collection Practices)				
9						
10	COMPLAINT					
11	JUDY STILES ("Plaintiff"), by and through her attorneys, KIMMEL & SILVERMAN					
12	P.C., alleges the following against NCO FINANCIAL SYSTEMS, INC. ("Defendant"):					
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14	INTRODUCTION					
15	1. Plaintiff's Complaint is based on the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15					
16	U.S.C. § 1692 et seq. ("FDCPA") and the Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Cal					
17	Civ. Code §§1788-1788.32 et seq. ("RFDCPA").					
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19	JURISDICTION AND VENUE					
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21	2. Jurisdiction of this court arises pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k(d), which state					
22	that such actions may be brought and heard before "any appropriate United States district cour					
23	without regard to the amount in controversy," and 28 U.S.C. §1367 grants this cour					
24	supplemental jurisdiction over the state claims contained therein.					
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 Defendant conducts business and has an office in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and therefore, personal jurisdiction is established.

- 4. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1).
- 5. Declaratory relief is available pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202.

#### **PARTIES**

- 6. Plaintiff is a natural person residing in Corona, California, 92882.
- 7. Plaintiff is a person granted a cause of action under the FDCPA. See 15 U.S.C. \$1692k(a), and Wenrich v. Cole, 2000 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 18687 (E.D. Pa. Dec 22, 2000).
- 8. Defendant is a national debt collection company with corporate headquarters located at 507 Prudential Road in Horsham, Pennsylvania, 19044.
- 9. Defendant is a "debt collector" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6), and repeatedly contacted Plaintiff in an attempt to collect a debt of another person.
- 10. Defendant acted through its agents, employees, officers, members, directors, heirs, successors, assigns, principals, trustees, sureties, subrogees, representatives, and insurers.

#### PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

11. The Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("FDCPA") is a comprehensive statute, which prohibits a catalog of activities in connection with the collection of debts by third parties.

See 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq. The FDCPA imposes civil liability on any person or entity that violates its provisions, and establishes general standards of debt collector conduct, defines abuse, and provides for specific consumer rights. 15 U.S.C. § 1692k. The operative provisions of the FDCPA declare certain rights to be provided to or claimed by debtors, forbid deceitful and

misleading practices, prohibit harassing and abusive tactics, and proscribe unfair or unconscionable conduct, both generally and in a specific list of disapproved practices.

- 12. In particular, the FDCPA broadly enumerates several practices considered contrary to its stated purpose, and forbids debt collectors from taking such action. The substantive heart of the FDCPA lies in three broad prohibitions. First, a "debt collector may not engage in any conduct the natural consequence of which is to harass, oppress, or abuse any person in connection with the collection of a debt." 15 U.S.C. § 1692d. Second, a "debt collector may not use any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt." 15 U.S.C. § 1692e. And third, a "debt collector may not use unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt." 15 U.S.C. § 1692f. The FDCPA is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous collectors, whether or not there exists a valid debt, broadly prohibits unfair or unconscionable collection methods, conduct which harasses, oppresses or abuses any debtor, and any false, deceptive or misleading statements in connection with the collection of a debt.
- 13. In enacting the FDCPA, the United States Congress found that "[t]here is abundant evidence of the use of abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection practices by many debt collectors," which "contribute to the number of personal bankruptcies, to marital instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasions of individual privacy." 15 U.S.C. § 1692a. Congress additionally found existing laws and procedures for redressing debt collection injuries to be inadequate to protect consumers. 15 U.S.C. § 1692b.
- 14. Congress enacted the FDCPA to regulate the collection of consumer debts by debt collectors. The express purposes of the FDCPA are to "eliminate abusive debt collection practices by debt collectors, to insure that debt collectors who refrain from using abusive debt

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collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged, and to promote consistent State action to protect consumers against debt collection abuses." 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

#### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 15. At all times relevant, Plaintiff was an individual residing within the State of California.
- 16. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times herein Defendant conducted business in the State of California.
- 17. Defendant and others it retained placed harassing and abusive collection calls to Plaintiff seeking and demanding payment for an alleged consumer debt of another person.
- 18. Upon information and belief, the alleged debt Defendant was seeking to collect arose out of transactions, which were primarily for personal, family, or household purposes.
- 19. Beginning on or around April 2010 and continuing through May 2010, Defendant made continuous and repeated telephone calls to Plaintiff in an attempt to collect a debt of another person.
- 20. In addition, Defendant left multiple voice mail messages on Plaintiff's home answering machine related to a debt of another person.
  - 21. Defendant identified the debtor as someone other then Plaintiff.
- 22. Plaintiff attempted to contact Defendant at the number it left on her answering machine; however, when Plaintiff contacted Defendant, she only received a recorded message.
- 23. The repetitive calls to Plaintiff were disturbing, harassing, and an invasion of privacy.
  - 24. Defendant failed to investigate or verify contact information prior to and after

calling Plaintiff.

25. Defendant failed to update its records to avoid further harassment of Plaintiff.

#### CONSTRUCTION OF APPLICABLE LAW

- 26. The FDCPA is a strict liability statute. <u>Taylor v. Perrin, Landry, deLaunay & Durand</u>, 103 F.3d 1232 (5th Cir. 1997). "Because the Act imposes strict liability, a consumer need not show intentional conduct by the debt collector to be entitled to damages." <u>Russell v. Equifax A.R.S.</u>, 74 F. 3d 30 (2d Cir. 1996); <u>see also Gearing v. Check Brokerage Corp.</u>, 233 F.3d 469 (7th Cir. 2000) (holding unintentional misrepresentation of debt collector's legal status violated FDCPA); <u>Clomon v. Jackson</u>, 988 F. 2d 1314 (2d Cir. 1993).
- 27. The FDCPA is a remedial statute, and therefore must be construed liberally in favor of the debtor. Sprinkle v. SB&C Ltd., 472 F. Supp. 2d 1235 (W.D. Wash. 2006). The remedial nature of the FDCPA requires that courts interpret it liberally. Clark v. Capital Credit & Collection Services, Inc., 460 F. 3d 1162 (9th Cir. 2006). "Because the FDCPA, like the Truth in Lending Act (TILA) 15 U.S.C §1601 et seq., is a remedial statute, it should be construed liberally in favor of the consumer." Johnson v. Riddle, 305 F. 3d 1107 (10th Cir. 2002).
- 28. The FDCPA is to be interpreted in accordance with the "least sophisticated" consumer standard. See Jeter v. Credit Bureau, Inc., 760 F.2d 1168 (11th Cir. 1985); Graziano v. Harrison, 950 F. 2d 107 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 1991); Swanson v. Southern Oregon Credit Service, Inc., 869 F.2d 1222 (9th Cir. 1988). The FDCPA was not "made for the protection of experts, but for the public that vast multitude which includes the ignorant, the unthinking, and the credulous, and the fact that a false statement may be obviously false to those who are trained and

experienced does not change its character, nor take away its power to deceive others less experienced." <u>Id.</u> The least sophisticated consumer standard serves a dual purpose in that it ensures protection of all consumers, even naive and trusting, against deceptive collection practices, and protects collectors against liability for bizarre or idiosyncratic interpretations of collection notices. Clomon, 988 F. 2d at 1318.

## COUNT I DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

- 29. In its actions to collect a disputed debt, Defendant violated the FDCPA in one or more of the following ways:
  - a. Defendant violated of the FDCPA generally;
  - b. Defendant violated §1692b(2) of the FDCPA by informing Plaintiff that another person owed a debt;
  - c. Defendant violated §1692b(3) of the FDCPA by calling Plaintiff more than once in connection for the collection of a debt for another individual;
  - d. Defendant violated §1692c(b) of the FDCPA by communicating with Plaintiff about a debt allegedly owed by another individual;
  - e. Defendant violated §1692d of the FDCPA by harassing Plaintiff in connection with the collection of an alleged debt;
  - f. Defendant violated §1692d(5) of the FDCPA, when it caused Plaintiff's telephone to ring repeatedly or continuously with the intent to harass, annoy or abuse Plaintiff;
  - g. Defendant violated §1692f of the FDCPA by using unfair and unconscionable means with Plaintiff to collect or attempt to collect a debt; and

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 Defendant acted in an otherwise deceptive, unfair and unconscionable manner and failed to comply with the FDCPA.

# COUNT II VIOLATION OF THE ROSENTHAL FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT §§ 1788-1788.32 (RFDCPA)

- 30. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 31. The Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("RFDCPA"), Cal. Civ. Code §§1788-1788.32 et seq., prohibits debt collectors from engaging in unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the collection of consumer debts and to require debtors to act fairly in entering into and honoring such debts. See Cal. Civil Code § 1788.1(b).
- 32. Plaintiff avers that Defendant performed debt collection activities in an attempt to collect a debt allegedly owed to it.
- 33. In those instances where Defendant preformed debt collection activities, Defendant's conduct violated the RFDCPA.
  - 34. Plaintiff is a "person" as that term is defined in Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(g).
  - 35. Plaintiff is a "debtor" as that term is defined in Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(h).
- 36. Defendant is a "debt collector" as that term is defined in Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(c).
- 37. Defendant's conduct violated the RFDCPA in multiple ways, including but not limited to:
  - a. Causing Plaintiff's telephone to ring repeatedly in connection with the collection of a debt in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.11(d);

- b. Communicating, by telephone or in person, with the debtor with such frequency as to be unreasonable and to constitute an harassment to the debtor under the circumstances in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.11(e);
- 38. As a result of Defendant's violations of the RFDCPA, Plaintiff is entitled to any actual damages pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(a); statutory damages for a knowing or willful violation in the amount up to \$1,000.00 pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(b); and reasonable attorney's fees and costs pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(c) from Defendant.

#### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, JUDY STILES, respectfully prays for a judgment as follows:

- a. All actual compensatory damages suffered pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(1);
- b. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 for the violation of the FDCPA pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(2)(A);
- c. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00, pursuant to California Civil Code § 1788.30(b);
- d. All reasonable attorneys' fees, witness fees, court costs and other litigation costs incurred by Plaintiff pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1693k(a)(3) and California Civil Code§ 1788.30(c); and
- e. Any other relief deemed appropriate by this Honorable Court.

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DATED: 4/15/1/

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#### **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff, JUDY STILES, demands a jury trial in this

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

KIMMEL & SILVERMAN, P.C.

By:

Craig Thor Kimmel Attorney ID # 57100

Kimmel & Silverman, P.C.

30 E. Butler Pike Ambler, PA 19002

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Email: kimmel@creditlaw.com